

REMARKS

Elections/Restrictions

The Applicant affirms the election without traverse to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 19 – 28. Claims 29 – 32 are cancelled.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 19-21, 25, 26 and 28 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landau (U.S. Patent No. 6,261,433) in view of Woo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,440,289). The Examiner has rejected claims 22-24 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landau ('433) in view of Woo et al. ('289) as applied to claims 19-21, 25, 26 and 28 above, and further in view of the Lowenheim text *Electroplating*. The Examiner has rejected claim 27 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Landau ('433) in view of Woo et al. ('289) as applied to claims 19-21, 25, 26 and 28 above, and further in view of Taylor et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,210,555). The Applicant respectfully traverses. The cited references, either individually or in combination, do not teach or render obvious all of the elements of the Applicant's claims. In independent claim 19 the Applicant claims a method of plating where an aqueous electroplating composition is provided. The electroplating composition includes copper, an acid, a halogen ion, and "a combination of additives comprising a suppressing agent and an accelerating-suppressing agent." The cited references fail to teach the element of independent claim 19 of providing an electroplating composition that includes a combination of additives comprising a suppressing agent and an accelerating-suppressing agent. The combination of these additives is to improve the yield of defect-free copper interconnect lines by promoting uniform nucleation, thin seed layer repair, elimination of the grain mismatch and improved gap fill. In contrast Landau teaches levelers, brighteners, and grain refiners that may also act as accelerator and suppressor agents and fails to teach an accelerating-suppressing agent. Landau thus does not teach the combination of a suppressing agent and an accelerating-suppressing agent. Additionally, Woo, Lowenheim, and Taylor each fail to teach a combination of additives comprising a suppressing agent and an accelerating-suppressing agent. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the

cited references, either individually or in combination, fail to anticipate or render obvious independent claim 19 and claims 20 – 28 that depend upon and incorporate the elements of claim 19.